

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/811,874

Applicant(s)

UENOYAMA, HIROFUMI

Examiner

Bot LeDynch

Art Unit

2862

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/30/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.



Bot LeDynch
Primary Examiner

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not, alone or in combination, disclose "a threshold adjusting and setting section for setting said threshold so that it can be adjusted relatively with respect to said detection waveforms, the method comprising the steps of: calculating an intersection point level value indicated by an intersection point between a plurality of detection waveforms detected for said plurality of setting values when said plurality of detection waveforms are superimposed in phase; and adjusting said threshold so that it agrees with said intersection point level value" (as to claim 1); (2) a threshold adjusting and setting section for setting said threshold so that it can be adjusted relatively with respect to said detection waveforms, wherein a first detection waveform is obtained by changing a sensing gap length, and a second detection waveform is obtained according to the sensing gap length that is defined to be said specific value and said threshold is adjusted so that it agrees with an intersection point level value that is indicated by an intersection point between said first detection waveform and said second detection waveform when said first detection waveform and said second detection waveform is superimposed in phase (claim 12); (3) a threshold adjusting and setting section for setting said threshold so that it can be adjusted relatively with respect to said detection waveforms; a sensing gap length changing and setting section for changing and setting sensing gap lengths, which are formed between said first sensed portion or said second sensed portion and said magnetic field detecting section in said magnetic gap, among a plurality of setting values; a detection waveform obtaining section for obtaining

detection waveforms for said plurality of setting values by said magnetic field detecting section; and an intersection point level value calculating section for calculating an intersection point level value indicated by an intersection point between a plurality of detection waveforms detected for said plurality of setting values when said plurality of detection waveforms are superimposed in phase (claim 8).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bot LeDinh whose telephone number is 5712722231. The examiner can normally be reached on Maxiflex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, N. Le can be reached on 5712722235. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BL/ 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bot LeDinh', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Bot LeDinh, JD, PhD, DA
Primary Examiner